

## The Times-Dispatch

Published Daily and Weekly

At No. 4 North Tenth Street, Richmond, Va. Entered January 27, 1903, at Richmond, Va., as second-class matter, under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

The DAILY TIMES-DISPATCH is sold at 3 cents a copy.  
The SUNDAY TIMES-DISPATCH is sold at 5 cents a copy.

The DAILY TIMES-DISPATCH by mail—50 cents a month; \$5.00 a year; \$2.50 for six months; \$1.50 for three months.

The SUNDAY TIMES-DISPATCH by mail \$2.00 a year.

The DAILY TIMES-DISPATCH, including Sunday, in Richmond and Manchester, by carrier, 12 cents per week, or 60 cents per month.

The SUNDAY TIMES-DISPATCH, by carrier, 5 cents per week.

The WEEKLY TIMES-DISPATCH, \$1.00 a year.

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Uptown Office at T. A. Miller's, No. 510 East Broad Street.

THURSDAY, JULY 30, 1903.

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## THE PRIMARY.

We take the following extract from the report in The Times-Dispatch yesterday of the proceedings of the meeting of the City Democratic Committee to consider the plan for the next primary election:

"The two questions which consumed the entire evening were in relation to who shall be allowed to vote in the primary, and whether the plan shall be strictly viva voce or not, in accordance with the plan provided by the State Committee. One wing of the body seemed to desire the use of the old registration books, while another contended that it would be not proper to allow persons to participate in the primary who will be disqualified to vote at the general election. This question went over unsettled, and will come up at the next meeting."

If we are to have a legalized primary, as proposed, there can be no two opinions on this point, for section 35 of Article II. of the Constitution provides that "no person shall vote at any legalized primary election for the nomination of any candidate for office unless he is at the time registered and qualified to vote in the next succeeding election."

But even if the committee did not propose to hold a legalized primary, it seems to us that it would be a blunder to hold the primary under the old registration, which is now defunct. A new registration was held in 1902 and the election last fall for members of Congress was held under it, no person being allowed to vote unless his name appeared upon the new books. Some Democrats, however, did not avail themselves of the opportunity to register last year, but will doubtless do so at the registration which is to be held this year upon exactly the same terms. It is desirable that all such Democrats should vote in the primary, and therefore it seems to us wise to have the registration in Richmond as early as practicable, so as to give all eligible Democrats an opportunity to get their names upon the list, and defer the primary until after this registration shall have been held. But if the primary cannot be delayed, why, then, let the registration be hurried so as to be over some time prior to September 22d. At any rate, The Times-Dispatch thinks it would be unwise and would establish a bad precedent for the party in Richmond to allow others than duly registered voters to vote in the primary. As stated at the outset, this cannot be done if we propose to have a legalized primary.

## THE GOVERNOR AND THE MILITARY.

In the testimony which he gave before the Henrico County Court on Tuesday last Governor Montague stated that he had ordered the troops into Henrico county on the night of June 24th before Sheriff Solomon had called upon him for aid. The Governor had satisfied himself that the presence of troops was necessary to prevent the laws from being violated, and as the sheriff had failed up to that time to ask for troops, he took matters into his own hands. He communicated with the Adjutant-General and ordered him "to direct Colonel Anderson to mobilize his troops and go anywhere to preserve peace and order in the Commonwealth."

Doubt has been expressed time and again as to whether or not the Governor has the right to order troops into any part of the State unless requested so to do by the local authorities. But in the light of the plain language of the Constitution we can see no possible room for doubt, and this paper has always so maintained.

Section 73 of article V of the Constitution provides that "The Governor shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed," and in order that he may carry out that instruction it is further provided that "he shall be commander-in-chief of the land and naval forces of the State, and have power to embody the militia to repel invasion, suppress insurrection and enforce the execution of the laws."

It is perfectly clear from this that the Governor is authorized to send troops here and there as, in his opinion, occasion may demand, to enforce the laws and preserve order, and, more than that, that it is his bounden duty to do so. Of course, the Governor must exercise discretion. He must not, upon any slight provocation or for any selfish purpose, override the local authorities and put a community under military rule, whether or not. But when he knows, or has good reason to believe, that the laws are being openly violated, that riot and disorder prevail, and that the local authorities either cannot or will not control the situation, it is unquestionably his duty, whether troops are asked for or not, to

take matters into his own hands and see that the laws are upheld. It is to be observed that the primary duty and function of the Governor are to "take care that the laws be faithfully executed." He takes a solemn oath when he enters upon his office to discharge that function, and should he fail to do so, he would be recreant to his duty and false to his sacred trust.

## LYNCHING AT THE NORTH.

The New York Evening Post is in hysterics because, as it alleges, lynching is now in this country "a profound social disease," and "the North is now almost as fully inoculated as the South." It gives an outline of the recent race riot in the town of Danville, Ill., and says that the "whole phenomenon, with the steady march of lawlessness and ferocity to the North, is enough to stagger the stoutest patriot." And much more of the same sort.

But if statistics recently sent out from Chicago are reliable, there has been a notable decrease within the past year in the number of lynchings since the year 1902, when there were two hundred in the whole country. Last year the number was reduced to ninety-six, and this year the number to date is fifty-one.

But what really troubles our Northern contemporaries is that the number of lynchings in the North is increasing, the decrease being in the Southern States. Last year there were eighty-seven lynchings in the South, and nine in the North; this year, to date, there have been forty lynchings in the South and eleven in the North. Of this number, forty-five of the victims were negroes and six whites. We have no information on that point except in a general way, but we venture to say that the great majority of victims of lynchings which have occurred in the North during the present year were negroes—negroes who either assaulted white women or murdered white men.

No wonder the Evening Post is tearing its hair when it contemplates these things. It has time and again abused the South for its treatment of the negro, making believe that the North was more friendly to him. But as the negro population of the North increases more and more it is but plain to see that the people of that section hate the negro worse than the Southern people hate him; that they have less toleration for him, no matter how good he is, and no toleration at all for him when he is vicious and commits atrocious crimes against the white race. The Evening Post now has plenty of missionary work at home.

## PEONAGE IN ALABAMA.

The United States grand jury, which has been engaged for some time past in investigating peonage cases in Alabama, in its final report, returned ninety-nine true bills against eighteen persons. The report of the grand jury is frank and fearless, and this infamous system of condemning negroes to cruel slavery is denounced in unmeasured terms.

It appears from the report that the abuse has been confined to a few localities. "We have diligently sought to ascertain," says the report, "whether a like condition of things exists anywhere else in the district, and are gratified to report that the two localities named are the only places where such a state of things or anything approaching it exists in this district." "We set out the facts," says the report, in conclusion, "without exaggeration on the one hand or extenuation on the other. We think the truest friends to our people are those who tell the exact truth as to these matters. The great body of the people in this district, save the very few who are lost to all sense of justice and wish to profit by oppression, are violently opposed to these practices."

Every right thinking man in the South heartily concurs in the report of the grand jury. The Southern people are not in favor of such outrages, and their sentiments are expressed by the grand jury. But it is gratifying to know that these abuses have not been general, but confined to a few remote localities, and the Southern people as a whole are not to be held responsible for them. It is an injustice and a great outrage for Northern newspapers to charge up to the account of "the South" these infamous practices by a few individuals, which practices are as abhorrent to the Southern people as a whole as they are to the people of any other section.

## A COMPLAINT FROM STAUNTON

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:  
Sir,—Kindly permit one of your constant readers, who is heartily with you on some of your questions, to take issue with your editorial of to-day.

You say "the presence of troops was necessary," and in reference to the great expense attached thereto, "the great body of tax-payers of the Commonwealth will not disapprove it."

In regard to the presence of the troops being necessary, there is a very strong feeling, outside of Richmond, that had your officials and constabulary done their duty in the inception of the strike, it could have been quickly quelled.

Your Mayor, in the very beginning stands up in public, before a riotous mob, and shouts out to whom may hear, "I'm with you, boys! I'll walk!"

What example is set by the chief official of the city, to those in subordinate positions?

He ought to have been impeached at once. The sheriff of your county, when urged to call on the Governor for troops, says, "I won't call for them," and then persistently did all he could to keep his eyes shut to all that the rioters were doing.

Another case for impeachment! Your deaf policeman, after he has had sedition shouted in his ears, says, "Captain Guigon, I did not hear the man, and will not arrest him."

Another case for backsliding! We have kept closely in touch with this whole affair and have noticed that the police have been utterly useless, except to arrest some strike-breaker or active motorman, when they should have arrested the parties causing the trouble.

Then, again, the petty officials seemed to take pleasure in being as light on the strike offenders and as heavy on their opponents as they could possibly be.

Therefore, we outsiders believe that, if all officials, of every class, had done what it was their sworn duty to do (that is, to keep the peace and protect personal property and rights), they could have suppressed the strike in the very beginning and troops would not have been needed.

The strikers themselves could have engendered a large amount of sympathy by appointing patrols to help keep the peace.

Since the troops had to be called, "the great body of tax-payers" living outside the affected district will probably not

kick very much, but they feel it was an unnecessary burden.

PRO BONO PUBLICO.  
Staunton, Va., July 24th.

Granting every proposition that our correspondent lays down to be true, which we do not, he proves by his own argument that it was necessary to call out the troops. There was much disorder in the city, and if, as our correspondent says, the police would not suppress it, it was the bounden duty of the Mayor and the chief of police to ask for troops. There was nothing else for them to do.

But our correspondent is too hard on the Mayor. His famous saying about being in sympathy with "the boys" was not, we feel sure, correctly interpreted. It was an unfortunate speech at the time, for it was made in the midst of a very disorderly crowd. But the Mayor did not mean to say that he was in sympathy with the rioters. He was speaking of the strikers, and there were no strikers among the rioters. He meant to say that he was in sympathy with the strike, and that he had shown his sympathy by refusing to ride on the cars, but he followed that up with the announcement that unless the disorder ceased he would ask for soldiers. The disorder did not cease, and the Mayor, true to his word, called upon the Governor to bring the soldiers to Richmond.

We are not apologizing for the Mayor, but are simply stating the facts in the case, as a matter of justice. Mayor Taylor could not possibly have meant to say that he was in sympathy with the rioters, because, as we have just stated, he warned them that if they did not behave themselves he would call for troops.

Nor are we apologizing for the police. Some of the men were undoubtedly delinquent, but for that very reason it was necessary to have the soldiers. The police might have been able to handle the situation, although we doubt it, but the simple fact is that they did not handle it, and the Mayor and chief of police, realizing the fact, asked the aid of the State Government.

As for the disorder in Henrico, that was not Richmond's affair, and Richmond is in no way responsible for it. Sheriff Solomon declared that he could preserve order in the county, and refused to ask for troops, even after they had been asked for in Richmond. He discovered later, however, that he could not do so, and yielded to the inevitable. The fact that Sheriff Solomon refused to call upon the Governor for aid, even after such aid had been requested in Richmond, and the fact that he subsequently asked for aid, showed, beyond a peradventure, it seems to us, that the Mayor and chief of police of Richmond were right in the course which they pursued, and we do not see how the tax-payers of Virginia can reasonably grumble.

There was much disorder even after the soldiers arrived, and there is every reason to believe that the disorder would have been very much greater if the authorities had refused to call for troops. If they had refused to do so and there had been a bloody riot in Richmond, the blood of the slain would have been on their heads, and they would have received the condemnation they deserved.

The tax-payers of Staunton and of other cities and communities in the State should be very slow to condemn the authorities here for asking the Governor for troops, and very slow to condemn the Governor for responding promptly and effectually to the call. Some of these days, although we hope not, the tax-payers in other sections may find themselves in the same predicament, and if through the local authorities they call for them to protect life and property from the lawless element, they will expect the Governor to respond with the same promptness that he exercised in the Richmond case.

Judge Alton B. Parker, whose name is now frequently mentioned in connection with the Democratic nomination for the presidency, lives at a place called Eposus, near Kingston, N. Y. His homestead is called Rosemount Hall, and dates back to 1777. The members of his household are his mother, aged eighty; Judge and Mrs. Parker, and several children and grandchildren. The Judge is fifty-three years old, but, according to a correspondent of the Baltimore American, appears to be not over thirty-five. He stands five feet ten and a half inches tall, is massively built, with broad shoulders, deep chest, narrow waist, short neck and a large head. His hands are large, and their backs are covered with freckles, concomitants of the pronounced "sandy" complexion. "His face is broad, his jaws are square and determined, his short-cropped mustache is red, eyes dark and sparkling, eyebrows several shades darker than his mustache, hair a light ashy brown tinged with gray, and his forehead mounts high by a gentle curve, much as did that of the late President Garfield. The abundant color of youth is in his cheeks, giving him a complexion women envy."

The New York Tribune quotes a professor in one of the leading American universities as saying that not more than fifteen per cent. of the members of any graduating class are capable of writing in creditable English a clear account of a simple and familiar matter. The explanation furnished by our contemporary is that a boy preparing for college has little or no time for the free and eager reading of good literature, because of the present requirements for admission to college, and though the college student has time enough to read he has not acquired the habit during the years when its acquisition is not irksome.

Whether those conclusions be accurate or not, it is within our knowledge that a large percentage of "educated" men, write very poor letters. Some of them would be disgraced in the eyes of their correspondents but for the fact that they are sensible enough to employ good competent typewriters.

A trolley boat on the Nile is projected. Power will be furnished by water from the great dam at Assouan. The Khedive's recent private visit to England as the guest of Sir Ernest Cassel, the capitalist, who financed the bonds for the canal, is said to have been for the purpose of discussing the boat enterprise.

"This project," we are told, "when put

into execution, will wholly modify the travel on the Nile, and the slow, dreary, restful progress up the river on board the diabbehas will become a thing of the past."

Professor John W. Mallet, of the University of Virginia, not long ago delivered an address before the Chemical Society of Washington, D. C., on the subject of "Applied Chemistry in the South During the Civil War," in which he spoke of the great straits to which the Confederates were put through lack of drugs, paints, dyes, salt, nitre, etc., and how grandly their ingenuity met the requirements of the occasion. A synopsis of his remarks was published lately in the Scientific American.

The Medical and Ordnance Departments of the Confederacy were remarkably well conducted. Their achievements in the face of great discouragements are bright chapters in Southern history. It is marvelous what difficulties they met and overcame. Dr. S. P. Moore, who continued to reside here long after the war was over, was at the head of the Surgeon-General's office, while General Gorgas had charge of the ordnance bureau.

A steel swing, 300 feet high, and to cost about \$250,000, will be one of the features of the World's Fair. The swing will be operated by means of three large steel towers. The two end towers are to be 300 feet high each, and to have roof gardens, with cafes and theatre. The distance from one end tower to the other is to be 600 feet and the central tower will be equidistant from them.

The silk hat gentlemen who complain so much of corruption in high places can get an inning at the polls if they want it, and they ought to want it bad enough to utilize it or shut up about corruption in high places.

A State with enough of stocks and bonds to liquidate all of its debts on short notice is a State to be envied, and North Carolina is the Commonwealth that is in that enviable condition.

Senator Hopkins, of Illinois, will find it difficult to get his Danville constituency to name a gentleman of color for congressional honors and emoluments.

Just how many revolutions Colombia can get up when she gets that \$10,000,000 from Uncle Sam, nobody can now tell. About forty, perhaps.

A rollicking trip down the raging Jeemes, Indian fashion, is a luxury that only the wealthy can afford. It wasn't so in the days of the Indian.

There was nothing the matter with the pace of the trial and conviction of the Mecklenburg negro assaulter.

Rockefeller knows how to keep his big losses on paper and his big profits in the vault.

The men of Danville, Ill., evidently received an invoice of politicians from President Castro's general.

Senator Aldrich to Senator Platt: Look here, old man, what have I done to you, anyhow?

The trouble with that Chinese open door is that it won't stay open.

Perhaps the Kearsarge will give the Shamrock and the Reliance a few points.

Ciudad, Bolivar, and Breathitt county are in the volcanic eruption class also.

Virginia also has a few mountain feuds left, it would seem.

Aged Insurance.

A queer old fire insurance policy has come to light in Kansas, which was issued in London nearly 100 years ago. It is for \$1,000, and the premium was \$1.50 a year. It reads: "To encourage the removal of goods in the case of fire, this office will allow the reasonable charges attending the same, and make good the sufferer's loss, whether destroyed, lost, or damaged by such removal."

Just suppose the celebrated Smith family should get together. There wouldn't be any room for the Exposition visitors.—Salem Sentinel.

Surry county seems to be catching some of the epidemic of North Carolina distilleries.—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

And, judging from the police records, a good deal of the irrigation.—Newport News Press.

Don't know. Surry seems to be very quiet and peaceful.

We endeavor always to give readers of the Post good advice. We now advise after serious deliberation, melted down by experience, that all keep cool during the heated term now upon us.—Richmond Sentinel.

Kindly publish your recipe.

It would seem, from recent developments, that there is such a thing as law in Kentucky, after all.—Winston-Salem Sentinel.

As in Indiana, plenty of law but too little enforcement.

Remarks About Richmond.

Salem Times-Register: It is estimated that the strike of the street car men in Richmond has cost the State not less than \$50,000 on account of riotous behavior, protection, to say nothing of the great cost to the city government, the heavy damages to business generally, and the incalculable loss in wages and otherwise. Has the result been worth what it cost?

Norfolk Ledger: The Richmond investigation is revealing at least one thing—that the franchise who sides have been asked in the past to practically give away were considered very valuable by those applying for themselves why have they been extending thousands of dollars in "moulding public sentiment" on the subject?

Norfolk Dispatch: The white-winged dove of peace, supposed to be hovering over Richmond, is in constant danger of being struck by a chance shot from some striker.

Newport News Press: A Richmond man, who was run over by a heavily laden beer wagon, escaped without a scratch. Perhaps, the hops got into the wheels.

Newport News Times-Herald: The Richmond police have at last succeeded in winning the attention of the Police Board.

North Carolina Sentiment.

The Winston-Salem Sentinel says: In spite of all that has been said by the newspaper paragraphs of late, it would seem that Kentucky is about to have a hanging. Such events are getting to be very rare in more than one Southern State, and it is not altogether due to the lack of fit subjects, either.

The Durham Herald, which wants to give the negro a chance, says: That Madison county affair was the first case in which a negro was denied the right to earn an honest living in North Carolina, and it should not be allowed to recur.

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## Half Hour With Virginia Editors.

There is a hot political wrangle of some kind going on in Winchester. The following from the News-Item gives an idea of its warmth:

The political boss sees the political shoe yawning wide open for him. The sentence of the people has been pronounced—"depart, ye wicked, from our political world."

The Bristol Courier lays down this as sound judgment:

When the opposition to good roads is overcome, the chief obstacle in the way of our future great development will have been removed. And it's bound to come.

The Norfolk Ledger says: Uncle Andrew Carnegie may reasonably expect a letter from Virginia in his mail shortly—the Executive Committee of the Anti-Slavery League has just announced an expedition having, it is reported, discussed on yesterday, "with deep interest," the great magnate's recent gift to Booker Washington's Tuskegee Institute.

Replying to some criticisms of the Governor by the Tazewell Republican, the Norfolk County Democrat says: The fact that the disturbances occurred in the capital and under the Governor's matter. His course must have been the same whether he was to do with the same whether the trouble occurred in Richmond or Roanoke or Norfolk. That Richmond followed it with a becoming precision and dignity. The enemies of the Governor, however, in the Democratic party or out of it, will gain nothing by criticism of his course in the matter of the strike. That course was entirely correct, and Mr. Montague deserves commendation, not condemnation for pursuing it.

Personal and General.

William H. Seymour, of Brockport, N. Y., celebrated his one hundred and eighty-first birthday by entering a croquet tournament and making one of the best scores.

Rev. Dr. E. O. Huxton has resigned the presidency of Baldwin University, at Berea, O., because the trustees tried to force him, he says, to go out and solicit the necessary money to pay his salary.

Dr. Shea, of the Board of Health of Boston, has gone to Europe to study the methods of battling with contagious diseases, and will read a paper before a German medical society on the treatment of smallpox in the United States.

H. M. Sarbant, of Tacoma, and Dr. W. M. H. of New Orleans, have just made the ascent of Mt. Tacoma, Washington. This is the first time in four years that the big peak has been scaled, and the ascent is growing more difficult every season.

Dr. John A. Trembley, the eccentric scientist, has just died at his home in Hamilton, O. This home is unique, the owner having designed the various rooms in geometrical figures, some octagonal, others circular, others elliptical, and specimens of every known wood were procured from all parts of the world and used in the structure.

A Few Foreign Facts.

Myriads of locusts have appeared in the Argentine Republic, which is a bad sign for the next crops.

State lotteries in Holland are to be gradually diminished during the next eighteen years, when they will be abolished entirely.

In 1902 the wages received by the industrial workers of New South Wales amounted to \$2,474,000, which exceeded the sum earned in 1891 by \$140,000.

In the presence of the Swedish Royal Family on Tuesday the new route between Stockholm and Narvik, the most northerly station in the world, was opened.

Delegates from all parts of Europe and America will attend an international council of Unitarians on September 1st at Amsterdam. This is the first meeting of the kind ever held on the continent.

With its fine public buildings, harbor works and railway, the French port on the Red Sea, Aden, is being rapidly improved, as being incomparably the superior of Aden.

Permission has been granted to an Englishman to publish a monthly paper in Moscow entitled "The Anglo-Russian Trading, Industrial and Engineering Journal."

With a Comment or Two.

"The old Brown family recently had a very enjoyable reunion in Baltimore. Now it is in order for the Southern States to come together. We suggest James-ville as the place and some date during the exposition at Norfolk as the time for the reunion."—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

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